

REFLECTIONS ON *Growth* Number 5, November 2004

Using Newsletters to Foster Learning

The work of the Faith is accelerating as the institutions, communities, and individual believers multiply core activities and carry forward the Five Year Plan during its remaining 18 months. Communication of information and ideas in this phase of rapid development is vital in order to maintain and increase the momentum of the two essential movements of the Plan. Issue numbers 3 and 4 of *Reflections on Growth* focused on reflection meetings as a powerful vehicle of consultation and motivation that can spur the friends to arise. But there is another instrument that can also be used to serve these purposes.

A growing number of Bahá'í institutions and agencies throughout the world are publishing newsletters as an aid to advancing the process of entry by troops. While newsletters are not a new resource for many communities, using them to explain the vision of growth and to accelerate the institute process is a recent innovation. Newsletters can quickly disseminate the lessons learned as communities develop the core activities. They can keep the issues at hand in the forefront of the thinking of the believers.

The four newsletters featured in this edition of *Reflections on Growth* effectively provide information as well as positive examples to inspire and encourage those engaged in the advancement of their clusters. *Focus*, from **Zambia**, is an innovative national newsletter; *Learning about Growth*, published by the Regional Bahá'í Council of the Southern States, **United States**, presents an analytical approach to reflection and action in the region; *Wayfarer*, from **Australia**, primarily shares learning among institute tutors; and *Cobrando Impulso*, from Santa Cruz, **Bolivia**, enhances the work at the cluster level.

All of these newsletters project the spirit of countries, regions, and clusters on the move. They foster understanding, enhance learning, and encourage the reader to arise and serve.



Focus.pdf



Learning about Growth.pdf



Cobrando Impulso.pdf



Wayfarer.pdf